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## AMENDED CLAIMS

(97)

1. A combination of a first container (1) and a second container (1') to form a dispensing unit, which first and second containers each have a reservoir (2; 2') for a liquid substance and a pump (3; 3'), which is secured to the reservoir, can be actuated by hand and has a dispensing opening (5; 5') and a pump-actuating button (4; 4'), for dispensing substance from the reservoir, which combination also comprises coupling means (7, 8, 17, 18, 11, 13; 7', 8', 17', 18', 11', 13') for coupling together the first and second containers in a position next to one another, the coupling means comprising one or more first coupling members (7, 8, 17, 18, 11, 13) which are each arranged on the first container, and one or more second coupling means (7', 8', 17', 18', 11', 13'), which are each arranged on the second container and which can each be directly coupled to an associated first coupling member on the first container, characterised in that each reservoir has an opening at the top side, in which the pump is secured by means of a securing collar, and in that a first coupling member (7, 8, 17, 18) and associated second coupling member (7', 8', 17', 18') are arranged on the securing collar of the first container and the second container, respectively.

2. A combination of a first container (101) and a second container (101') to form a dispensing unit, which first and second containers each have a reservoir (102; 102') for a liquid substance and a pump (103; 103'), which is secured to the reservoir, can be actuated by hand and has a dispensing opening and a pump-actuating button (104; 104') for dispensing substance from the reservoir, which combination also comprises coupling means (111; 111') for coupling together the first and second containers in a position next to one another, the coupling means comprising one or more first coupling members (111), which are each arranged on the first container, and one or more second coupling means (111'), which are each arranged on the second container and which can each be directly coupled to an associated first coupling member on the first container,

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characterised in that a first coupling member (111) and an associated second coupling member (111') are each arranged fixedly on the pump-actuating button of the associated container in order to create a stable coupling between the pump-actuating buttons of the two containers and that the dispensing unit further comprises a reservoir holder (121) which is designed to at least partially hold the reservoir of the first container and the reservoir of the second container.

10 3. Combination according to claim 1 or 2, in which a first coupling member and an associated second coupling member are each arranged fixedly on the assembly of reservoir and pump of the associated container in order to create a stable coupling between the assemblies of reservoir and pump of the two  
15 containers.

4. Combination according to one or more of the claims 1-3, in which a first coupling member and an associated second coupling member are each arranged fixedly on the pump-actuating button of  
20 the associated container in order to create a stable coupling between the pump-actuating buttons of the two containers.

5. Combination according to one or more of the preceding claims, in which associated first and second coupling members  
25 are designed to form an optionally releasable click-fit connection to one another.

6. Combination according to claim 5, characterized in that the click-fit connection is an optionally releasable sliding click-  
30 fit connection.

7. Combination according to one or more of the preceding claims, in which each reservoir has an opening at the top side, in which the pump is secured by means of a securing collar, and  
35 in which a first coupling member and associated second coupling member are arranged on the securing collar of the first container and the second container, respectively.

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8. Combination according to one or more of the preceding claims, in which a pair of first and second coupling members is respectively arranged on the assembly of reservoir and pump of the first and second containers, respectively, in which the coupling members of each pair are complementary with respect to one another and in which the pairs of coupling members are identical to one another.
9. Combination according to claims 7 and 8, in which the securing collars of the first and second containers are identical.
10. Combination according to one or more of the preceding claims, in which the pump of each container has a dispensing passage which extends through the pump-actuating button.
11. Combination according to claim 10, in which the pump-actuating buttons of the first and second containers each have a bearing surface for the other pump-actuating button, and in which the dispensing passage of each pump-actuating button has a dispensing mouth in the vicinity of the bearing surface, so that in the coupled position the dispensing mouths lie adjacent to one another.
12. Combination according to one or more of the preceding claims, in which the first and second coupling members are designed to form a coupling which can no longer be released by a user.
13. Combination according to claims 3 and 4, in which the first and second coupling members are designed to hold the first and second containers at an oblique angle with respect to one another, with the pump-actuating buttons together, and then to couple the containers first of all by means of the coupling members associated with their pump-actuating buttons, and then to pivot the first and second containers towards one another about a hinge which is produced by the coupling members of the pump-actuating buttons, in such a manner that the coupling

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members associated with the assembly of reservoir and pump of each of the containers are coupled to one another.

14. Dispensing unit comprising the combination of a first  
5 container and a second container coupled to it according to one or more of the preceding claims.

15. Dispensing unit according to claim 13, which also comprises a reservoir holder which is designed to at least partially hold  
10 the reservoir of the first container and the reservoir of the second container.

16. Dispensing unit according to claim 14, in which the separate reservoirs can be fixed in the reservoir holder by  
15 means of a click-fit connection between the reservoir holder and the respective containers.

17. Dispensing unit according to one or more of claims 13 - 15 in which the dispensing passage in the first container at least  
20 partially merges with the dispensing passage in the second container, and in which the dispensing passages have a common dispensing mouth.

18. Combination or dispensing unit according to one or more of  
25 the preceding claims, in which there is a removable blocking element for blocking at least one of the pump-actuating buttons of the first or second container.

19. Combination or dispensing unit according to claim 17, in  
30 which a blocking element which can be removed, for example can be broken off, is formed integrally on each securing collar.

20. Combination or dispensing unit according to claim 17 or 18, in which the blocking element is a cylindrical clamping element  
35 which is substantially U-shaped in cross section and which, when the actuating button is in its highest position, can be clamped around a narrower section of the actuating button.

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21. Container for a liquid substance which is clearly intended for a combination or dispensing unit according to one or more of the preceding claims.

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